

Local Government and Communities Committee**Consultation of the Scottish Parliament on the Scottish Government's Revised National Outcomes****Submission from the Corra Foundation****What do you think about the changes to the National Outcomes?**

Following last year's consultation, it was felt that the previous format of NPF was too high level and that the language could be more reflective of local needs and experiences. Previous comments centred on the need for greater clarity and a format that was more cohesive. Overall, it was felt that the updated National Outcome framework is more accessible. The format and presentation of the outcomes and indicators is clearer and on the whole the language has improved.

What do you think of any new Outcomes?

There were some comments around the language used in the new outcomes and discussion around how well this reflects people and communities in Scotland. Firstly, the use of 'empowered and resilient' in the community outcome, it was felt that this language may not align with how people define the communities they live in. There was some discussion within the Corra Foundation's People in Place team around how communities may define empowerment and resilience and how this could be measured. It was felt that some of these terms were open to interpretation making it difficult to measure without a clear definition. Empowerment was discussed as people within a community feeling listened to, able to contribute and involved in decision making processes. Level of access to information, levels of inclusion or participation, social accountability, capacity and increase of community organisations were felt to be intrinsic to measuring and defining empowerment. Resilience was discussed as community members being aware of support and community assets, feeling safe and confident to respond to adverse situations.

Further to this, there were some comments around the outcome relating to tackling poverty 'by sharing opportunities, wealth and power', that this is unclear and difficult to put into context for people in Scotland.

Finally, there were comments concerning the wording of the purpose and the values. Firstly, it was felt that the word 'sustainable' could be used more clearly to encompass economic growth across sectors (trading goods, services, social care etc.). For instance, 'fostering/developing a sustainable and inclusive economy'. Secondly, it was unclear if the values reflected actions of people in a society or government behaviour, in particular the phrase 'acts in an open and transparent way'. It was suggested that this would be clearer if it focussed on encouraging social participation and responsibility.